

Serial No. 09/681,753

RD-28,169

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of  
James Norman Cawse et al.

: Group Art Unit: 1645

Serial No. 09/681,753

: Examiner: L. Clow

Filed: May 31, 2001

: Response to Phone Call

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONDUCT A COMBINATORIAL  
HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING EXPERIMENT

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT MADE**  
**IN A TELEPHONE CALL**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to a telephone conversation with Examiner L. Clow on October 30, 2001, Applicant hereby elects with traverse the claims identified by Examiner Clow as Group I (e.g., 1-17, 19, 27-31, 34).

However, Applicant submits that the non-elected claims are indeed part of the same invention defined by Group I. Claim 18, which depends directly from claim 1, simply adds the additional limitation of defining the experimental space factors and further defines the combinatorial high throughput screening (CHTS) experiment claimed in claim 1. Claims 20-26 pertain to the composition of the catalyst, which is being

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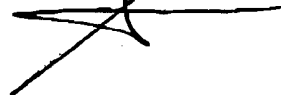
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screened via the CHTS method of claim 1, and claims 32-33 pertain to the system for conduction the CHTS defined by claim 1. As such, Applicant submits that claims 1-34 deal with a single invention pertaining to a single invention for conducting a designed combinatorial experiment, and as such no additional burden would be placed on the Examiner to examine all the claims within a single search effort.

Respectfully submitted,



Ben P. Patel  
Reg. No. 48,420

November 02, 2001

General Electric Company  
Telephone: 518-387-6223

(1645) Fax

**PATENT AND LEGAL OPERATION**  
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**To:** Lori Clow

**From:** Ben Patel

**Fax:** 703-308-8724

**Pages including this sheet:** 3

**Phone:** 703-306-5439

**Date:** November 02, 2001

**Re:** response to 10/30/01 telephone call in Application 09/681,753

**• Comments:**

Examiner Clow,

Per our telephone conversation on 10/30/01, a formal response to the restriction requirement in application No. 09/681,753 is included. Please call me at 518-387-6223 if you have any questions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ben Patel (Reg. No. 48,420)